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IN THE CLAIMS

Claims pending:

- At time of the Action: 9, 20, and 22-28
 - After this Response: 9, 20, 22-23, and 25-28
- Canceled or Withdrawn claims: 24**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings:

10 **1-8.** (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable storage media comprising computer-executable instructions that perform the following when executed by a computer:

15 read an extensible markup language (XML) element containing a first attribute, a second attribute, and a third attribute, wherein the first attribute indicates a match pattern;

parse the first attribute into a first XPath expression;

find nodes in an XML data file that match the match pattern by evaluating
20 the nodes of the XML data file against the first XPath expression;

parse the second attribute into a second XPath expression, wherein the second attribute specifies an expression context relative to each of the matching nodes;

obtain a set of nodes from the matching nodes that define the expression
25 context for each of the matching nodes by evaluating the matching nodes against the second XPath expression;

parse the third attribute into a third XPath expression, wherein the third attribute specifies a Boolean expression condition;

determine if each node of the set of nodes violates the third XPath expression by evaluating each node of the set of nodes against the third XPath expression;

- associate each node of the set of nodes that violates the third XPath expression with an error message; and
- display the error message for each node associated with the error message.

10-19. (Canceled)

- 10 20. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable storage media comprising computer-executable instructions that perform the following when executed by a computer:

read a first extensible markup language (XML) element containing a first attribute that indicates a match pattern;

- 15 parse the first attribute into an XPath expression;

find one or more nodes in an XML data file that match the match pattern by evaluating the nodes of the XML data file against the XPath expression;

determine if one or more of the matching nodes violate a schema associated with the XML data file;

- 20 read a second XML element associated with the first XML element, the second XML element containing an error message;

associate the error message with each of the matching nodes that violate the schema; and

display the error message for each of the matching nodes associated with the error message.

21. (Canceled)

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22. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable storage media comprising computer-executable instructions that perform the following when executed by a computer:

10 read an extensible markup language (XML) element containing a first attribute and a second attribute, wherein the first attribute indicates a match pattern;

parse the first attribute into an XPath expression;

parse the second attribute into a handler-object name;

15 create a handler object referencing executable code and having the handler-object name;

find nodes in an XML data file that match the match pattern by evaluating the nodes of the XML data file against the XPath expression;

associate the found nodes with the handler-object name; and

20 execute, with aid from the handler-object name, the executable code referenced by the handler object when one of the found nodes is modified, wherein the execution of the executable code indicates to a user whether or not the modification to the found node violates a validation rule.

23. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 22, wherein the execution of the executable code accepts or rejects the modification to the found node.

24. (Canceled)

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25. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 22, wherein the execution of the executable code modifies other nodes of the XML data file.

26. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 22, wherein the execution
10 of the executable code modifies files associated with the XML data file.

27. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 22, wherein the modification includes the found node being deleted from the XML data file.

15 28. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 22, further comprising:
evaluate a new node added to the XML data file against the XPath expression;

associate the new node with the handler-object name if the new node matches the match pattern; and

20 execute, with aid from the handler-object name, the executable code referenced by the handler object.

29-34. (Canceled)